DEVELOPMENT—MORAL AND MATERIAL

(Economic Conference)

(*No. 98*)

SUBJECT No. 98.

Discussion of subjects at Taluk Conferences.

Mr. Karnick Krishnamurthi Rao, Magadi Taluk.

Mr. Karnick Krishnamurthi Rao.—At present the Taluk Conferences are nothing but formal affairs serving very little useful purpose. It is necessary that they must be made more useful They ought to be miniature Representative Assemblies in the Taluks. The subjects taken up there will be discussed thoroughly and many of them being local subjects, the Deputy Commissioners will be able to dispose of them then and there according to the views expressed at the Conference. These subjects will not again come up before the Representative Assembly and much of the time of the Assembly will also be saved. At present, the net result of the Taluk Conferences is nothing. I am quite sure that these Conferences may be made more useful if worked by non-officials.

Mr. C. Vasudeva Rao.—The existing state of things is, that if the Deputy Commissioner does not come, nobody else will come. It is so difficult to get members to attend the Conference when the Deputy Commissioner himself is there. I am afraid, if it is made to be worked by non-officials, it will be worse. I think the existing state of things may continue.

Mr. Karnick Krishnamurthi Rao.—It may be so in one District, *viz.*, Kadur. Before these Conferences, some reports are read as a formal matter and people do not take any interest at all. At present, the Conferences are held under the guidance of the Economic Conference and the Representative Assembly has nothing to do with it. The Conferences must be improved to enable people to discuss their wants and needs freely. Subjects could be better handled at such meetings. If necessary, I shall send up a scheme.

Mr. H. Krishna Sastri.—There are two sets of Conferences-District Conferences and Taluk Conferences. In the Taluk Conferences, some sets of propositions are discussed from the point of view of administration and economy and nothing more. In the District Conferences, however, many questions are discussed. But so far, Government have neither reviewed their proceeding nor given their views on important questions coming up there. They have not sought to make them more useful. While the Dewan gives an account of the whole administration in his Speech, very little reference is

made to the work done in the District and Taluk Conferences. I think it would be well if the Taluk Conference are improved so as to definitely establish the relation ship from the village up to the city. Many questions of local importance can be discussed and brought to the notice of local authorities then and there with a view to remedying defects. The kind of relationship that should be established between the Representative Assembly and the Economic Conference was discussed sometime ago as Government are aware, and it was resolved that a definite scheme should be formulated on that regard. Mr. Krishnamurthi Rao has accordingly prepared a scheme and it would be well if it is considered.

Dewan.—The scheme may be sent up to Government for consideration.

DEVELOPMENT—MORAL AND MATERIAL.

(EDUCATION.)

(Nos. 99 to 134.)

SUBJECT No. 99.

Establishment of a Medical Faculty in connection with the Mysore University.

Messrs (1) D. Srikanta Rao Devanhalli Taluk; (2) A. Narasimha Iyengar, Sagar Taluk and (3) M. Venkatakrishnaiya, Mysore University.

Mr. M. Venkatakrishnaiya.—A Medical Faculty should be opened in our University. This has been put off for want of funds. The Finance Committee is considering how best the finances of the State can be controlled and the Retrenchment Committee to cut down unnecessary expenditure without impairing the efficiency of the administration. If this is done, there will be enough funds not only for the Medical and Agricultural Colleges, but also for other educational improvements. Some years back, both the Medical and Sanitary Departments were under one Officer. But now there are two Officers. Government may well compare usefulness then and now and also consider whether any retrenchment in this line is possible.

A Medical School has already been established in the State. This may be improved. The Ayurvedic College in the State has been given a grant of a lakh of rupees but that has not been spent. The Ayurvedic system of medicine was by far better than other systems several thousand years ago. These medicines are now losing in their reputation and have practically lost, not being able to keep pace with the western medical system. The reason is that we are not encouraging Ayurvedic and Unani medicines even as much as foreign ones. Ayurvedic medicines cost about ten pies per head, while western medicines cost from annas two to four per head. We find some pretext or other